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Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption

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Implementation Review Group
Sixth session
Vienna, 1-5 June 2015

Annotated provisional agenda

Provisional agenda

1. Organizational matters:
   (a) Opening of the session;
   (b) Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
2. Review of implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption.
3. Performance of the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption.
4. Technical assistance.
5. Financial and budgetary matters.
6. Other matters.
7. Provisional agenda for the seventh session of the Implementation Review Group.
8. Adoption of the report of the Implementation Review Group on its sixth session.

Annotations

1. Organizational matters

(a) Opening of the session

The sixth session of the Implementation Review Group will be opened on Monday, 1 June 2015, at 10 a.m., in the Vienna International Centre, C Building, Boardroom D.

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(b) Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

The provisional agenda for the session was prepared in accordance with resolution 3/1, entitled "Review mechanism", adopted by the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption at its third session, and with decision 5/1, entitled "Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption", adopted by the Conference at its fifth session.

The proposed organization of work (see annex) was prepared in line with the guidance provided by the Conference and by the Implementation Review Group.

2. Review of implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption

Drawing of lots

Pursuant to paragraphs 14 and 19 of the terms of reference of the Review Mechanism, lots are to be drawn to determine which States parties will participate in the reviews. On the second day of the sixth session of the Group, lots will be drawn to select the States parties reviewing the States parties under review in the fourth year of the current review cycle that became parties to the Convention since the last drawing of lots, held at the resumed fifth session of the Group.[1]

In its resolution 4/1, the Conference of the States Parties endorsed the practice followed by the Implementation Review Group with regard to the procedural issues arising from the drawing of lots. At its first session, the Implementation Review Group drew lots for the States parties to be reviewed in the first review cycle and decided that States ratifying or acceding to the Convention after the drawing of lots would be reviewed starting in the fourth year of the current review cycle.

Progress report

Pursuant to paragraph 25 of the terms of reference of the Review Mechanism, the schedule and requirements of each country review should be established by the secretariat in consultation with the reviewing States parties and the State party under review and should address all issues relevant to the review. The guidelines for governmental experts and the secretariat in the conduct of country reviews set out indicative timelines for the conduct of reviews.

In order to provide the Implementation Review Group with an overview of issues identified during individual country reviews and to seek guidance on addressing challenges encountered during the conduct of reviews, the secretariat has compiled information on the conduct of the reviews of the current cycle, which will be published in document CAC/COSP/IRG/2015/2.

In line with past practice, and taking into account the views expressed by the Group on the usefulness of holding trilateral meetings between States parties under review and reviewing States parties in the ongoing individual country review processes for advancing the review of implementation in order to achieve progress and discuss outstanding issues, the secretariat has made arrangements under this agenda item for the scheduling of such trilateral meetings on the fourth day of the session.

[1] At the time of writing, those States are Germany and South Sudan. Other States may have ratified or acceded to the Convention by the sixth session of the Group.

Outcome of reviews

Pursuant to paragraph 35 of the terms of reference of the Review Mechanism, the secretariat should compile the most common and relevant information on successes, good practices, challenges, observations and technical assistance needs contained in the country review reports and include that information, organized by theme, in a thematic implementation report and regional supplementary addenda, for submission to the Group.

Reports containing updated information were submitted to the Group at its fifth session in the six official languages of the United Nations. The secretariat will provide an oral update on information obtained through the individual country review processes that have been finalized since the fifth session of the Group. A publication containing an overview of the thematic findings from the country reviews completed to date will be made available to the Conference of the States Parties at its sixth session.

In order to focus the discussion under this agenda item, panels will be organized on the review of implementation of the Convention.

The thematic implementation reports and regional addenda should serve as the basis for the analytical work of the Group. On the basis of its deliberations, the Group should submit recommendations and conclusions to the Conference for its consideration and approval.

As requested in Conference resolution 5/2, entitled "Strengthening the implementation of the criminalization provisions of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, in particular with regard to solicitation", the secretariat will provide a short oral report to the Group concerning the progress made and the challenges encountered in the implementation of that resolution.

Pursuant to paragraph 36 of the terms of reference, the executive summaries of the country review reports finalized by the sixth session will be translated and made available in the six official languages of the United Nations as documents of the Implementation Review Group for information purposes only. Several executive summaries will also be made available as conference room papers with a view to processing in all six official languages for the resumed session of the Group.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat: progress report on the implementation of the mandates of the Implementation Review Group (CAC/COSP/IRG/2015/2)

Executive summaries of country review reports (CAC/COSP/IRG/I/2/1/Add.27 and Add.30-31)

Executive summaries of country review reports (CAC/COSP/IRG/I/3/1/Add.15-19)

Executive summaries of country review reports (CAC/COSP/IRG/I/4/1/Add.4-7)

3. Performance of the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption

In its decision 5/1, the Conference of the States Parties decided that the Group should include a new item on the agenda of its future sessions allowing for

discussion of relevant information, collected with the support of the secretariat, in order to facilitate the assessment of the performance of the Review Mechanism and its terms of reference, in accordance with paragraph 48 of the terms of reference, following the completion of the first review cycle.

Also in that decision, the Conference decided that, in the collection of such information, the Group should take into account future requirements for follow-up in accordance with paragraphs 40 and 41 of the terms of reference.

Following the consideration of this item by the Group at both parts of its fifth session, the secretariat will prepare, as requested by the Group, an updated consolidated document on the performance of the Mechanism for its consideration at its sixth session. The document will build on the consolidated document presented to the Group at its resumed fifth session and will draw on lessons learned, while also providing ideas and suggestions for improvement based on both the experiences of the secretariat and on an analysis of proposals made by States. For this purpose, the secretariat has solicited contributions from States; a compilation of the responses received will be made available in conference room paper CAC/COSP/IRG/2015/CRP.5.

With a view to improving the comprehensive self-assessment checklist for the second cycle of the Review Mechanism, the secretariat prepared a draft outline of the question flow and the proposed thematic structure of the revised self-assessment checklist for reviewing the implementation of chapters II and V of the Convention (CAC/COSP/2013/3) and a draft revised self-assessment checklist for the second cycle of the Review Mechanism (CAC/COSP/2013/CRP.6) for the Conference at its fifth session. As requested by the Group at its resumed fifth session, in order to provide it with an updated version of the comprehensive self-assessment checklist in all official languages at its sixth session, the secretariat continued collecting and consolidating comments and input from States on the draft checklist. A compilation of the responses received and the updated draft of the checklist will be made available in conference room papers CAC/COSP/IRG/2015/CRP.5 and CAC/COSP/IRG/2015/CRP.1, respectively.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat: assessment of the performance of the Mechanism (CAC/COSP/IRG/2015/3)

Draft self-assessment checklist for the second cycle (CAC/COSP/IRG/2015/CRP.1)

Responses received on the revised self-assessment checklist and responses received to facilitate discussions on the assessment of the performance of the Review Mechanism (CAC/COSP/IRG/2015/CRP.5)

4. Technical assistance

In its resolution 3/1, the Conference of the States Parties decided that the Implementation Review Group would be in charge of following up and continuing the work undertaken previously by the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Technical Assistance.

Reports containing consolidated information on priority areas in technical assistance and activities undertaken by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to

support implementation of the Convention at the global, regional and national levels and an analysis of technical assistance needs as emerging from the country review reports and executive summaries thereof were submitted to the Group at its fifth session in the six official languages of the United Nations. The secretariat will provide an oral update on technical assistance needs identified through the individual country review processes that have been finalized since the fifth session of the Group.

In order to focus the discussion under this agenda item, a panel will be organized on technical assistance needs emerging from country reviews and progress made in responding to those needs.

Paragraph 44 of the terms of reference states that the functions of the Implementation Review Group are to have an overview of the review process in order to identify challenges and good practices and to consider technical assistance requirements in order to ensure effective implementation of the Convention.

In its resolution 4/1, the Conference took into account that, pursuant to paragraph 11 of the terms of reference, one of the goals of the Review Mechanism was to help States parties to identify and substantiate specific needs for technical assistance and to promote and facilitate the provision of technical assistance.

Also in that resolution, the Conference recognized the continuing and valuable role of technical assistance within the Review Mechanism, as well as the importance of country-led and country-based integrated and coordinated programming and delivery of technical assistance as an effective means of addressing technical assistance needs of States parties. Further in that resolution, the Conference requested the secretariat to continue to develop a three-tiered approach — global, regional and national — to the delivery of technical assistance in the light of the priority areas identified as a result of the review process.

5. Financial and budgetary matters

In its resolution 3/1, the Conference of the States Parties underlined that the Review Mechanism would require a budget that ensured its efficient, continued and impartial functioning. Pursuant to that resolution, the General Assembly, in its resolution 64/237, requested the Secretary-General to ensure that the Review Mechanism was adequately funded.

In its resolution 4/1, the Conference decided that the Implementation Review Group should assist it in the fulfilment of its responsibility to consider the budget biennially by engaging with the Secretariat during the intersessional period with regard to expenditures and projected costs related to the Review Mechanism.

At its sixth session, the Implementation Review Group will have before it a note by the Secretariat containing budgetary information on expenditures incurred so far for the first five years of operation of the Review Mechanism, resources received for the same period, both from the regular budget and from voluntary contributions, and projected expenditures for the first five years.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat on financial resources (CAC/COSP/IRG/2015/4)

6. Other matters

In its resolution 4/6, entitled "Non-governmental organizations and the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption", the Conference of the States Parties decided that briefings for non-governmental organizations would be convened on the margins of the sessions of the Implementation Review Group and conducted by the secretariat in cooperation with a member of the bureau. The Group will receive a summary of the briefings, which are to be held on Thursday, 4 June 2015, on the margins of the sixth session.

7. Provisional agenda for the seventh session of the Implementation Review Group

The Implementation Review Group is to consider and approve, at its sixth session, a provisional agenda for its seventh session, which will be drafted by the secretariat in consultation with the Chair.

8. Adoption of the report of the Implementation Review Group on its sixth session

The Implementation Review Group is to adopt a report on its sixth session, the draft of which will be prepared by the secretariat.

Annex

Proposed organization of work

Date and time	*Item*	*Title or description*
Monday, 1 June		
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	1 (a)	Opening of the session
	1 (b)	Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
	2	Review of implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption
3-6 p.m.	2	Review of implementation of the Convention (*continued*)
Tuesday, 2 June		
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	2	Review of implementation of the Convention (*continued*)
	3	Performance of the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption
3-6 p.m.	3	Performance of the Review Mechanism *(continued)*
Wednesday, 3 June		
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	4	Technical assistance
3-6 p.m.	4	Technical assistance (*continued*)
Thursday, 4 June		
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	2	Review of implementation of the Convention (*continued*)
3-6 p.m.	2	Review of implementation of the Convention (*continued*)
Friday, 5 June		
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	5	Financial and budgetary matters
	6	Other matters
3-6 p.m.	7	Provisional agenda for the seventh session of the Implementation Review Group
	8	Adoption of the report of the Implementation Review Group on its sixth session